



Equity Council Agenda

Zoom Meeting Time: April 21, 2021 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Welcomes & Introductions

- Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) Chief of Staff Yvette Mendez welcomed the Council members
- EOHHS Assistant Secretary Ana Novais gave opening remarks. Within them, she discussed the verdict in the murder trial of George Floyd and made space for reflection.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Update – Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) team

- An additional 1,030 individuals were registered for the Equity Focused Vaccination clinic on April 17th through the collaborative efforts of State agencies, Equity Council members, and additional community leaders.
- Lessons learned from the Equity Focused Vaccination clinics include the importance of clear and consistent communications, increased registration options, access to and promotion of transportation options, and representation of a diverse range of communities among clinical and non-clinical staff at testing and vaccine sites.
- Data shows that vaccination rates have increased among high-density communities and communities of color as a result of targeted strategies including the equity-focused clinics.
- For more information on COVID-19 vaccination and the status vaccine distribution in Rhode Island, please visit <https://covid.ri.gov/vaccination>. To register for a COVID-19 vaccine appointment, please visit <https://www.vaccinateri.org/>.

Community Feedback: What are you hearing from the community? What should the State know?

- A community member voiced the importance of continuing to promote COVID-19 vaccination among individuals of color and other high-risk populations.

Next Steps

- RIDOH staff requested that Council members submit suggestions as to how potential CDC COVID-19 grant funds should be spent to adequately serve communities of color and other high-risk populations.

Close

- Closing remarks given by EOHHS Chief of Staff Yvette Mendez

